

House Resolution 1398

By: Representatives Gardner of the 57th, Ashe of the 56th, Borders of the 175th, and Lunsford of the 110th

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the State of Georgia to establish a system of advance directives for mental health
2 care; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, people with serious mental illness wish to take responsibility for themselves and
4 their care and treatment; and

5 WHEREAS, people with mental illness in a time of crisis often are confronted with the worst
6 possible alternatives: hospitalization or incarceration; and

7 WHEREAS, people with mental illness wish to have a tool to establish advance directives
8 for mental health care to give them a chance to plan for a mental health crisis at a time when
9 they are feeling well.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
11 the members of this body urge that the State of Georgia establish a system of advance
12 directives for mental health care as a valuable empowerment tool for consumers which will
13 do the following:

- 14 (1) Give people a chance to plan for a mental health crisis at a time when they are feeling
15 well;
- 16 (2) Give people control for their care and treatment when they are not able to speak
17 effectively for themselves due to a mental health crisis;
- 18 (3) Speed the recovery process after a crisis because interventions received will be the
19 ones that consumers identify for themselves as effective;
- 20 (4) Establish a network and support system keeping them well and assuring their wishes
21 are carried out during a mental health crisis; and
- 22 (5) Give consumers control of their recovery through their choice and their voice.